

## ORIGINAL

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Geoffrey S. Kercsmar (#020528) 1 Arizona Corporation Commission THE KERCSMAR LAW FIRM P.C. DOCKETED 3260 N. Hayden Road, Suite 204 2 Scottsdale, Arizona 85251 NOV 2 2 2006 3 Telephone: (480) 421-1001 Attorneys for Respondents Jerry Hodges and Lawrence K. 4 **DOCKETED BY** Paille SLL 5 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 6 7 In the matter of: 8 AGRA-TECHNOLOGIES, INC. (a/k/a ATI), a Nevada Corporation. **DOCKET NO. S-20484A-06-0669** 5800 North Dodge Avenue, Bldg. A Flagstaff, AZ 86004-2963 10 WILLIAM JAY PIERSON (a/k/a BILL 11 PIERSON) and SANDRA LEE ANSWER OF RESPONDENTS JERRY PIERSON (a/k/a SANDY PIERSON). HODGES AND LAWRENCE K. PAILLE 12 husband and wife, 6710 Lynx Lane 13 Flagstaff, AZ 86004-1404 14 WILLIAM H. BAKER, JR (a/k/a BILL BAKER) and PATRICIA M. BAKER. 15 husband and wife, 3027 N. Alta Vista Flagstaff, AZ 86004 16 17 JERRY HODGES and JANE DOE HODGES, husband and wife. 1858 Gunlock Court St. George, UT 84790-6705 18 19 LAWRENCE KEVIN PAILEE (a/k/a 20 LARRY PAILLE) and JANE DOE PAILLE, husband and wife, 21 220 Pinon Woods Drive Sedona, AZ 85351-6902; 22 Respondents. 23 Respondents Jerry Hodges and Lawrence K. Paille (together, "Respondents") 24

Respondents Jerry Hodges and Lawrence K. Paille (together, "Respondents") answering the Temporary Order to Cease and Desist and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing ("TCD"), admit, deny and allege as follows:

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1	I.				
2	<u>JURISDICTION</u>				
3	1. Admit the allegations in Paragraph 1 of the TCD.				
4	II.				
5	<u>RESPONDENTS</u>				
6	2. Admit that AgraTech's offices are located at 5800 N. Dodge Ave., Bldg. A	١,			
7	Flagstaff, Arizona 86004. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to th	e			
8	remaining allegations in Paragraph 2 of the TCD.				
9	3. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations is	n			
10	Paragraph 3 of the TCD.				
11	4. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations is	n			
12	Paragraph 4 of the TCD.				
13	5. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations is	n			
14	Paragraph 5 of the TCD.				
15	6. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in	n			
16	Paragraph 6 of the TCD.				
17	7. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in	n			
18	Paragraph 7 of the TCD.				
19	8. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations is	n			
20	Paragraph 8 of the TCD.				
21	9. Admit.				
22	10. Denied. By way of further response, Jerry Hodges is unmarried.				

12. Denied. By way of further response, Lawrence K. Paille is unmarried.

13. Paragraph 13 of the TCD contains no factual allegations, and therefore an

11. Admit.

admission or denial is not required.

14. Paragraph 14 of the TCD contains no factual allegations, and therefore an admission or denial is not required.

## III.

## **FACTS**

- 15. Admit.
- 16. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in Paragraph 16 of the TCD. By way of further response, Respondents did not become agents of AgraTech until August 2005.
- 17. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in Paragraph 17 of the TCD. By way of further response, Respondents did not become agents of AgraTech until August 2005.
- 18. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in Paragraph 18 of the TCD. By way of further response, Respondents did not become agents of AgraTech until August 2005.
- 19. Denied. By way of further response, Respondents did not become agents of AgraTech until August 2005. Since that time, Respondents have sold Ore Rights & Mining Agreements ("Ore Units") within Arizona.
  - 20. Admit.
- 21. The Ore Units are written agreements, and therefore, the terms of those agreements speak for themselves.
  - 22. Denied.
  - 23. Denied.
- 24. Denied. By way of further response, all updates related to risk were provided by AgraTech and its personnel, not Respondents.
- 25. Denied. By way of further response, Respondents have sold a combined total of approximately 189 Ore Units.

- 26. Admit that Ore Unit purchasers were not informed by Respondents of the commission structure for the Ore Units unless the purchaser requested commission information. The remaining allegations of Paragraph 26 of the TCD are denied.
- 27. Admit that, since August 2005, Respondents have re-sold AgraTech stock to certain private investors within Arizona. The remaining allegations of Paragraph 27 of the TCD are denied.
- 28. Admit that, since August 2005, Respondents have re-sold AgraTech stock to certain private investors within Arizona. The remaining allegations of Paragraph 28 of the TCD are denied.
  - 29. Denied.
- 30. Admit that, since August 2005, Respondents have re-sold AgraTech stock to certain private investors within Arizona. The remaining allegations of Paragraph 30 of the TCD are denied.
- 31. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in Paragraph 31 of the TCD. By way of further response, Respondents did not become agents of AgraTech until August 2005.
  - 32. Denied.
- 33. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in Paragraph 33 of the TCD.
- 34. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in Paragraph 34 of the TCD.
- 35. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in Paragraph 35 of the TCD.
  - 36. Denied.
    - 37. Denied.
  - 38. Denied.

1	39. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in
2	Paragraph 39 of the TCD.
3	40. Admit that Respondents were aware of a \$39 million loan facility and/or
4	investment package sought by AgraTech in June 2006. Lack information or belief
5	sufficient to respond to the remaining allegations in Paragraph 40 of the TCD.
6	41. Admit that, before the TCD was filed or served on them, Respondents sold
7	two Ore Units on September 25, 2006, and one Ore Unit on October 4, 2006. Lack
8	information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in Paragraph 41 of the TCD.
9	IV.
10	VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1841
11	42. Denied. By way of further response, Respondents did not become agents of
12	AgraTech until August 2005. Since that time, Respondents have sold Ore Units within
13	Arizona and Respondents have re-sold AgraTech stock to certain private investors within
14	Arizona.
15	43. Lack information or belief sufficient to respond to the allegations in
16	Paragraph 43 of the TCD.
17	44. Denied.
18	V.
19	<u>VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1842</u>
20	45. Denied. By way of further response, Respondents did not become agents of
21	AgraTech until August 2005. Since that time, Respondents have sold Ore Units within
22	Arizona and Respondents have re-sold AgraTech stock to certain private investors within
23	Arizona.
24	46. Denied.
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## VI.

## **VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1991**

- 47. Denied.
- 48. Denied.

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- 49. Respondents state that Section VII of the TCD does not require a response.
- 50. Respondents deny each and every allegation not specifically admitted herein.
- 51. Respondents request that the Commission deny the requested relief as identified in Paragraphs 1 through 5 of Section VIII of the TCD.
- 52. Respondents have requested a hearing pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1972 and A.A.C. R14-4-307.
- 53. Respondents have fully complied with the Answer Requirements contained in Section X of the TCD.

## AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 1. Respondents allege that the TCD fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.
  - 2. Respondents allege that any securities offered were exempt from registration.
- 3. Respondents allege they were not required to be registered as a dealer, salesman, investment advisor or investment advisor representative.
- 4. Respondents allege that the Securities Division has failed to allege securities fraud with reasonable particularity.
- 5. Respondents allege that no individual relied, reasonably or otherwise, on any alleged misrepresentation by Respondents.
- 6. Respondents allege that they did not know, and in the exercise of reasonable care, could not have known, of any untrue statements or material omissions as set forth in the TCD.

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- 7. Respondents allege that they have not acted with the requisite scienter.
- 8. Respondents allege that they have not employed a deceptive or manipulative device in connection with the sale of any security.
- 9. Respondents allege that no one has suffered from injuries or damages as a result of Respondents' acts.
- 10. Respondents allege that they never made any misrepresentations or omissions, material or otherwise.
- 11. Respondents allege that the violations, if any, of the Arizona Securities Act were proximately caused and contributed to by the improper conduct or intervening acts of the other respondents, or other third persons who are not named in the action as parties.
- 12. Respondents allege that they acted in good faith and did not directly or indirectly induce the conduct at issue.
- 13. Respondents allege that no private or investor complaints have been filed against Respondents.

DATED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2006.

THE KERCSMAR LAW FIRM P.C.

By

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